

What is claimed is:

1. A stump-grinding apparatus comprising a plurality of cutting assemblies mounted to a first side of a rotatable wheel, wherein each cutting assembly comprises:
 - a block having an inner side and an outer side and a trailing side, the inner side contacting the first side of the rotatable wheel between a central axis and a peripheral edge of the wheel;
 - a buttress structure fastened to the wheel adjacent to the trailing side of the block;
 - a tooth having a base portion received within a groove formed in the outer side of the block; and
 - a fastener that passes through a first aperture extending through the base portion of the tooth, a second aperture extending through the block between the groove and the inner side of the block, and a third aperture formed in the wheel, the fastener fastening the tooth to the block and the block to the wheel.
2. The stump-grinding apparatus according to claim 1 wherein a plurality of cutting assemblies are also mounted to a second opposite side of the rotatable wheel.
3. The stump-grinding apparatus according to claim 2 wherein the fastener from each cutting assembly mounted on the first side of the wheel extends through the wheel and threads into a fourth aperture formed in the block of a corresponding cutting assembly mounted on the second opposite side of the wheel.
4. The stump-grinding apparatus according to claim 1 wherein each cutting assembly further comprises a cutting bit that is attached to a distal end of the tooth.
5. The stump-grinding apparatus according to claim 4 wherein the cutting bit has a "church window" shape.

6. The stump-grinding apparatus according to claim 4 further comprising a plurality of ridges on the back side of the cutting bit that engage with corresponding ridges on the distal end of the tooth.

7. The stump-grinding apparatus according to claim 4 wherein a first portion of teeth received in blocks mounted near the peripheral edge on both the first side of the wheel and the second side of the wheel support cutting bits that extend beyond the peripheral edge of the wheel between planes defined by the first side and second side of the wheel.

8. The stump-grinding apparatus according to claim 7 wherein a second portion of teeth received in blocks mounted near the peripheral edge on both the first side of the wheel and the second side of the wheel support cutting bits that extend beyond the peripheral edge of the wheel on either side of planes defined by the first side and the second side of the wheel.

9. The stump-grinding apparatus according to claim 8 wherein the cutting bits supported by the second portion of teeth extend farther away from the peripheral edge of the wheel than the cutting bits supported by the first portion of teeth.

10. A stump-grinding apparatus comprising a rotatable wheel having opposing sides to which are mounted a plurality of cutting assemblies, each cutting assembly comprising:

- a block having an inner side and an outer side, the inner side contacting the side of the rotatable wheel between a central axis and a peripheral edge of the wheel;

- a tooth having a base portion received within a groove formed in the outer side of the block; and

- a fastener that passes through a first aperture extending through the base portion of the tooth, a second aperture extending through the block between the

groove and the inner side of the block, and a third aperture formed in the wheel.

11. The stump-grinding apparatus according to claim 10 wherein each fastener that passes through the first aperture extending through the base portion of the tooth, the second aperture extending through the block between the groove and the inner side of the block, and the third aperture formed in the wheel, extends through the wheel and is received in a fourth aperture formed in the block of one of the plurality of cutting assemblies mounted on an opposite side of the wheel.

12. The stump-grinding apparatus according to claim 11 wherein the fourth aperture is a threaded aperture.

13. The stump-grinding apparatus according to claim 10 wherein each cutting assembly further comprises a cutting bit that is attached to a distal end of the tooth.

14. The stump-grinding apparatus according to claim 10 wherein the cutting bit has a "church window" shape.

15. The stump-grinding apparatus according to claim 13 further comprising a plurality of ridges on the back side of the cutting bit that engage with corresponding ridges on the distal end of the tooth.

16. The stump-grinding apparatus according to claim 10 wherein a first portion of teeth received in blocks mounted near the peripheral edge on the opposing sides of the wheel support cutting bits that extend beyond the peripheral edge of the wheel between planes defined by the opposing sides of the wheel.

17. The stump-grinding apparatus according to claim 10 wherein a second portion of teeth received in blocks mounted near the peripheral edge on the opposing

sides of the wheel support cutting bits that extend beyond the peripheral edge of the wheel on either side of planes defined by the opposing sides of the wheel.

18. The stump-grinding apparatus according to claim 16 wherein a second portion of teeth received in blocks mounted near the peripheral edge on the opposing sides of the wheel support cutting bits that extend beyond the peripheral edge of the wheel on either side of planes defined by the opposing sides of the wheel.

19. The stump-grinding apparatus according to claim 18 wherein the cutting bits supported by the second portion of teeth extend farther away from the peripheral edge of the wheel than the cutting bits supported by the first portion of teeth.

20. A method of removing a tree stump comprising:
providing a stump-grinding apparatus according to claim 1;
rotating the rotatable wheel; and
contacting the tree stump with the rotating wheel to cut or grind away the stump.